Page 1, before the second full paragraph at the left margin, insert -- Description of the Related Art--;

A3

Page 2, before the first full paragraph and centered, insert --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION --;

A4

Page 2, before the second full paragraph and centered, insert --BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS --; and

A5

Page 3, before the eleventh full paragraph and centered, insert --DESCRIPTION OF THE ILLUSTRATED EMBODIMENTS--.

A6

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 1 - 28, as indicated on the attached appendix, to read as follows:

1. (Amended) An illuminated sign or panel arrangement comprising:

at least one clear light distribution plate of transparent plastic material or glass and having opposite side faces, one of the side faces of the plate being provided with a plurality of spaced apart, substantially parallel grooves extending wholly or partly along the length of the plate between a first and a second end thereof;

A7

at least one elongate light source device extending transverse to the parallel grooves and located along at least one of the ends to deliver light directly into the plate; and

at least one of (a) a light diffuser plate or display film positioned adjacent to the other side face of the light distribution plate, and (b) a light reflector plate or sheet positioned adjacent to the one side face of the light distribution plate.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

2. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 1, including first and second light distribution plates, the side faces of the first and second plates provided with grooves being placed adjacent to one another.

3. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 2, wherein a light reflector plate or sheet is placed between the first and second light distribution plates.

4. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 2, wherein a light diffuser plate or display film is placed adjacent to the other side face of at least one of the first and second light distribution plates.

5. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 2, wherein the first and second light distribution plates have at least one light source device receiving recess on the side faces thereof provided with grooves and extending transverse to the grooves, so that when the side faces of the plates provided with grooves rest against one another, opposite recesses will provide space for a light source device.

6. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 1, wherein the light diffuser plate covers wholly or partly the other side face of the light distribution plate.

7. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 1, wherein the light diffuser plate is covered by an opal plate.

8. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 1, wherein the grooves have their termination a short distance from respective end edges of the light distribution plate.

9. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 1, wherein one light source device is provided at one end edge of the light distribution plate.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

10. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 1 wherein a light source device is provided at a respective end edge of the two opposite end edges of the light distribution plate.

11. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 1, wherein at least one of the width and depth of the grooves increases in the direction away from the light source device.

12. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 1, including two light source devices and wherein at least one of the width and depth of the grooves, as seen from each of the light source devices, increases until about a point midway between the light source devices.

13. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 12, wherein at least one of the width and depth of the grooves increases non-linearly.

14. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 2, wherein the grooves in the first light distribution plate are parallel with and immediately above the grooves in the second light distribution plate.

15. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 2, wherein the grooves in the first light distribution plate are parallel to, but laterally offset in relation to the grooves in the second light distribution plate.

16. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 1, wherein the light source device is a cold cathode tube.

17. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 1, wherein the light source device is a fluorescent tube.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

18. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 1, wherein the light source device includes a plurality of light-emitting diodes placed side by side and arranged to beam substantially in the same longitudinal direction of the grooves.

19. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 18, wherein the heads of the light-emitting diodes are placed in a recess in the end edge portion of the light distribution plate.

20. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 18, the number of light-emitting diodes corresponds approximately to the number of grooves in the light distribution plate.

21. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 1, wherein the light source device consists of a single light source which supplies plurality of optical fibres having at their output ends, a beam direction substantially in the longitudinal direction of the grooves.

22. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 21, wherein the output ends of the optical fibres rest against the end edge of the light distribution plate.

23. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 21, wherein the output ends of the optical fibres are placed in a recess in the end edge portion of the light distribution plate.

24. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 1, wherein the distance between the grooves in the light distribution plate is a function of the thickness of the plate, wherein $d1 = d2 + k^* d3$, and

wherein d1 is the groove distance, d2 is a fixed minimum groove distance, d3 is the thickness of the light distribution plate and k is a constant.

25. (Amended) The arrangement of claim 24, wherein $k = 0.625$ and d2 is 1.5 mm.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com